

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SS-20 NSC-07 INR-10

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DRAFTED BY AF/C:WHSIEFKEN:LA

APPROVED BY AF/C:APALMER

AF/JFOLEY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGUI IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR,OVIP,CT,US

SUBJECT:BOKASSA DESIRE TO VISIT U.S.

REF: DALE-COHEN LETTER, JUNE 10, 1974

1. COUNTRY OFFICER HAD LONG CONVERSATION WITH CAR AMBASSADOR CONCERNING VARIETY OF SUBJECTS INCLUDING DESIRE OF PRESIDENT BOKASSA TO VISIT THE U.S. AND SEE PRESIDENT NIXON. AMBASSADOR EMPHASIZED THAT BOKASSA WANTED VERY MUCH TO VISIT THE US AND STILL HAS INVITATION FROM PRIVATE GROUPS FOR PRIVATE VISIT. HOWEVER, BOKASSA WOULD NOT COME UNLESS HE COULD SEE PRESIDENT NIXON DURING VISIT.

AMBASSADOR MADE A STRONG PITCH FOR PRESIDENT NIXON TO FIND TWENTY MINUTES TO MEET HIS PRESIDENT, CITING BOKASSA'S VISITS WITH KOSYGIN, BRANDT AND POMPIDOU.

2- COUNTRY OFFICER EMPHASIZED THAT GIVEN PRESENT DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL SITUATION, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PROMISE THAT THE PRESIDENT COULD SEE BOKASSA IF HE CAME ON VISIT. DEPT CERTAINLY COULD NOT MAKE ANY PROMISES IN ADVANCE.

3. IN VIEW OF INABILITY TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO PRESIDENT BOKASSA'S DESIRE, SUGGEST EMBASSY NOT COMMENT ON SUBJECT TO GOCAR. IF ASKED, YOU SHOULD REPLY THAT IT IS TOO FAR

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IN ADVANCE TO MAKE ANY PROMISES STRESSING INTERNATIONAL

SITUATION, ELECTIONS THIS FALL, AND THE FACT THAT AS YET
NO ONE KNOWS WHAT THE PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE WILL BE LATER
THIS YEAR. LETTER FOLLOWS GIVING FULLER DISCUSSION OF
CONVERSATION. FOR THE MOMENT, IT APPEARS SUBJECT COULD BEST
BE HANDLED THROUGH AMBASSADOR HERE. SISCO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: PRESIDENT, HEAD OF GOVERNMENT VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: WHSIEFKEN:LA
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